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111—12.2(17A) Director discretion. The decision on whether the circumstances justify the granting of a waiver shall be made at the sole discretion of the director upon consideration of all relevant factors. The director may bring a request for a waiver to the commission for discussion prior to issuing a decision on the waiver. The director shall notify the commission of any waiver granted or denied.

- **12.2(1)** The director may, in response to a completed petition or on the director's own motion, grant a waiver from a rule, in whole or in part, as applied to the circumstances of a specified situation if the director finds each of the following:
- a. Application of the rule to the person at issue would result in hardship or injustice to that person; and
- b. Waiver on the basis of the particular circumstances relative to that specified person would be consistent with the public interest; and
  - c. Waiver in the specific case would not prejudice the substantial legal rights of any person; and
- d. Waiver in the specific case would not have a negative impact on any person affected by the waiver.

In determining whether a waiver should be granted, the director shall consider the public interest, policies and legislative intent of the statute on which the rule is based. When the rule from which a waiver is sought establishes administrative deadlines, the director shall balance the special individual circumstances of the petitioner with the overall goal of uniform treatment of all constituents.

- **12.2(2)** Special waiver rules not precluded. These uniform waiver rules shall not preclude the director from granting waivers in other contexts or on the basis of other standards if a statute or other department rule authorizes the director to do so and the director deems it appropriate to do so.
- **12.2(3)** Time period of waiver. A waiver shall not be permanent unless the petitioner can show that a temporary waiver would be impracticable. If a temporary waiver is granted, there is no automatic right to renewal. At the sole discretion of the director, a waiver may be renewed if the director finds that grounds for the waiver continue to exist.